Setting up of pipeline from Haldia Refinery to Budge-Budge

1293. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration a proposal to set up a pipeline from Haldia Refinery to Budge-Budge for transport of oil products;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal; and

(c) what is the stage of its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project proposal envisages laying of a 55 kms. long pipeline at an estimated cost of around Rs. 30 crores to be completed in about 3 years.

(c) The proposal is at the preliminary stage of consideration.

Petroleum product Pipeline from Kandla to Bhatinda

1294. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration of a proposal for setting up a petroleum product pipeline from Kandla to Bhatinda;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal; and

(c) what is the stage of its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) A product pipeline spanning about 1330 kms. is proposed to be laid from Kandla to Bhatinda for transporting petroleum products within an initial capacity of 3 MMTPA in Kandla-Karnal Section and 1.5 MMTPA in Karnal-Bhatinda Section with provision of further expansion. This pipeline is estimated to cost Rs. 686.54 crores with foreign exchange component of Rs. 223.33 crores at March, 1988 price level.

(c) A Detailed Feasibility Report (DFR) prepared by IOC has been submitted to the Government for approval.

Decline in the domestic production of crude oil

1295. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of domestic production of crude oil to meet the total requirements of the country, has of late shown trends of decline; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to obviate this trend of slide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Although the production of crude oil during the 7th Plan will be considerably higher than during the 6th Plan, it has decrease as a percentage of total consumption of petroleum products.

Besides efforts towards demand management and the measures for conservation of petroleum products, the following steps *inter alia*, have been taken to increase the production of crude oil:—

— Intensification of exploration which may eventually lead to enhanced production.

—Intensification of work-over operations.